

Dr. Soumyajit Chowdhury

Curriculum Vitae

Department of Zoology
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Current Academic Affiliation

- Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, M.U.C. Women's College, Burdwan, West Bengal, INDIA
- Guest Faculty, Department of Environmental Science, University of Calcutta

Areas of Expertise and Research Interests

Tropical inland and coastal biodiversity, wildlife and conservation biology, insect diversity and ecology with special emphasis on butterflies, mangrove and coastal ecology

Education

- a) **PhD** in Science- School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University [2012]
(Thesis Title: *Ecology of Fiddler Crabs in Sundarban Mangrove Ecosystem, West Bengal, India*)
- b) **M.Sc.** in Zoology, Presidency College, University of Calcutta [2001]
- c) **B.Sc.** in Zoology, Dinabandhu Andrew's College, University of Calcutta [1999]

Research Experience

- (a) Diversity, community ecology and habitat interactions of insects (with a special emphasis on Butterflies) and spiders in the wild and modified environments of inland, coastal and urban ecosystems of India.
- (b) Diversity and ecology of birds, including their way of habitat use under wild and modified environmental conditions in the coastal and inland landscapes of India.
- (c) Habitat, population and community ecology of fiddler crabs (*Uca*) and other mudflat fauna in Indian Sundarbans.
- (d) Diversity and Ecology of Mangrove flora and fauna in Indian Sundarbans.
- (e) Classification and networking of different in situ conservation regions of India with respect to natural resources under an umbrella term 'Conservation Land'.
- (f) "Biome India": Website on the ecosystem-based *in situ* biodiversity conservation approaches in India, with an aim to run web-based awareness and education programme towards the classification and networking of different Conservation Regions of India (under development).

Outreach Experience

- (a) Training on biodiversity documentation and People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) methods organized by Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College, Kolkata. February 25-27, 2017. Venue: Chilkigarh Sacred Grove and Village, Jhargram, West Bengal.
 - (b) Regional Coordinator for West-Bengal region under the 'Free Sparrow-nest Distribution' initiative of Mahiru Foundation, Gujarat, 2013.
 - (c) Training on Insect Sampling and Field Census Techniques, "UGC-Sponsored Wildlife Conservation and Awareness Programme" organised by Maulana Azad College. February, 2011. Venue: RKM Campus, Narendrapur, Kolkata.
 - (d) Training to amateur enthusiasts about Floral and Faunal diversity, "NATURE WATCH PROGRAMME" organised by Prakriti Samsad. October, 2010. Venue: Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary, Kolkata.
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Research Projects

- (a) Principal Investigator: Minor Research Project from the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, India on "*Biological diversity and ecology of Macrolepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths) in the urban landscape of Kolkata Metropolis*".
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Academic Supervision Activity

Undergraduate Honours Project Supervision:

- *Current Supervision:*

Saheli Ghosal, Supriya Mondal, Debapriya Saha, Chaitali Kar, Payal Biswas, Moupiya Roy, Saheen Sultana, Sarna Baske (Dept. of Zoology, MUC Women's College): Started in July, 2017

- *Past Supervision:*

Susmita Mondal, Ajanta Sarkar, Upasana Dey (Dept. of Zoology, MUC Women's College): 2016-2017

MSc Dissertation Supervision:

- *Past Supervision:*

Sauryadeep Mukherjee (Dept. of Environmental Science, University of Calcutta): 2017.

Abhishek Talukdar (Dept. of Environmental Science, University of Calcutta): 2016-2017.

Soumi Mukherjee (PG Dept. of Zoology, Maulana Azad College, University of Calcutta): 2011-2012.

Publications

(a) Book Chapters

- (1) **Chowdhury, S.** (2015). Indication of Habitat Quality and Environmental Health by Fiddler Crabs (Uca: Ocypodidae): A Potential Bioindicator for Mangrove Ecosystems. In P.D. Gupta (Ed.), *Coherece, Seminar Edition: Vol. 1, Issue 2* (pp. 50-56). Kolkata: The Bhawanipur Education Society College. [ISBN: 978-81-930092-6-0]
- (2) **Chowdhury, S.** (2015). Conservation Land: An Integrated Conceptual Framework towards the in situ Biodiversity Conservations in India. In V.K. Gupta and A.K. Verma (Eds.), *Animal Diversity, Natural History and Conservation: Vol. 5* (pp. 227–250). New Delhi: Daya Publishing House. [ISBN: 9789351246169]
- (3) **Chowdhury, S.** (2015). Literature Survey and Bibliographic Analysis of Butterfly Fauna (Lepidoptera: Glossata) from West Bengal, India. In V.K. Gupta and A.K. Verma (Eds.), *Animal Diversity, Natural History and Conservation: Vol. 4* (pp. 123-136). New Delhi: Daya Publishing House. [ISBN: 9789351246152]
- (4) **Chowdhury, S.** (2013). Fiddler Crabs, Bioturbation and Ecosystem Engineering. In V.K. Gupta and A.K. Verma (Eds.), *Animal Diversity, Natural History and Conservation: Vol. 2* (pp. 181-192). New Delhi: Daya Publishing House. [ISBN: 9788170358312]

(b) Journal and Conference Articles

- (1) **Chowdhury, S.** (2014). Butterflies of Sundarban Biosphere Reserve, West Bengal, eastern India: a preliminary survey of their taxonomic diversity, ecology and their conservation. *Journal of Threatened Taxa*, 6(8): 6082–6092. [<http://dx.doi.org/10.11609/JoTT.o3787.6082-92>]
- (2) Barik, J. & **Chowdhury, S.** (2014). True mangroves of the deltaic Sundarbans, West Bengal, India: A Revised Species List. *Check List*, 10(2): 329 – 334. [ISSN: 1809-127X]
- (3) Nag, S., Ghose, P. S., & **Chowdhury, S.** (2013). Butterflies attracted to Light at Night from Gangtok, Sikkim. *Bugs R All (Newsletter of the Invertebrate Conservation and Information Network of South Asia)*, 20(September): 36. [ISSN: 2230-7052]
- (4) **Chowdhury, S.** & Soren, R. (2011). Butterfly (Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera) Fauna of East Calcutta Wetlands, West Bengal, India. *Check List*, 7(6): 700 - 703. [ISSN: 1809-127X]
- (5) **Chowdhury, S.**, Sanyal, P., Mukherjee, J., & Hazra, S. (2011). Fiddler crabs: Trophic interactions in intertidal marshes with special reference to the mangrove ecosystems of Indian Sundarbans. *Journal of Interacademia*, 15(4): 739 - 747. [ISSN: 0971-9016]
- (6) **Chowdhury, S.** & Soren, R. (2011). An uncommon evasive strategy of *Tajuria jehana* Moore (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) observed in Chintamani Kar Bird Sanctuary, West Bengal, India. *Bionotes*, 13(3): 119. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (7) **Chowdhury, S.** & Soren, R. (2011). Light attracted butterflies: A Review from the Indian sub-region with an inventory from West Bengal, India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa*, 3(6): 1868 – 1871. [ISSN: 0974-7907]

- (8) Soren, R. & **Chowdhury, S.** (2011). Spider Nectivory by *Phintella vittata* Koch (Salticidae: Araneae) from the extra-floral nectaries of *Urena lobata* L. from the Indian Region. *Current Science*, 100(8): 1123. [ISSN: 0011-3891]
- (9) Soren, R. & **Chowdhury, S.** (2011). Additions to Spider Fauna of Chintamoni Kar Bird Sanctuary, West Bengal, India. *Bionotes*, 13(1): 28. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (10) **Chowdhury, S.** (2010). Further Additions to Butterfly Fauna of Chintamoni Kar Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal, India. *Bionotes*, 12(4): 124. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (11) Soren, R. & **Chowdhury, S.** (2010). Spider Fauna of Chintamoni Kar Bird Sanctuary, West Bengal, India. *Bionotes*, 12(3): 103. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (12) **Chowdhury, S.**, Sanyal, P., Hazra, S., & Mukherjee, J. (2010). Ecological contributions of fiddler crabs towards the sustenance of Sundarban Mangroves: A biotic influence in disaster management. *Asian Studies*, XXVIII(2): 88-93.
- (13) **Chowdhury, S.** & Soren, R. (2009). Rediscovery of Small Salmon Arab, *Colotis amata* Fabricius from Saline and Semi-Saline Areas of West Bengal, India. *Journal of Threatened Taxa*, 1(6): 351 – 352. [DOI: 10.11609/JoTT.o2127.351-2]
- (14) **Chowdhury, S.** (2009). Global Warming Affects Fiddler Crabs. In S. Ghosh (Ed.), *Global Warming in Context to the Indian Subcontinent: Proceedings of the Humboldt Kolleg*, Puri, 11–13 December, 2008 (pp. 61-65). Kolkata: Humboldt Club Calcutta.
- (15) **Chowdhury, S.**, Soren, R. & Patra, S. (2009). *Ixora chinensis* Lam.: A New Host Plant for Common Silverline (*Spindasis vulcanus* Fabricius, Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae) from West Bengal. *Journal of Bombay Natural History Society*, 106(3): 348.
- (16) **Chowdhury, S.** & Soren, R. (2008). Common Banded Awl found laying eggs on *Derris indica* in Indian Botanic Gardens, Howrah, West Bengal. *Indian Lepidoptera*, 8(2008.9): 2-3.
- (17) **Chowdhury, S.**, Sanyal, A. & Chatterjee, A. (2008). Avian Diversity of Lothian Island Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal. *Journal of Environment and Sociobiology*, 5(2): 127 – 133. [ISSN: 2454-2601]
- (18) **Chowdhury, S.** & Sarkar, S. (2007). Black Rajah (*Charaxes dolon* Fabricius) Butterfly sighted in East Calcutta Wetlands, West Bengal. *Indian Lepidoptera*, 2007(11): 7-8.
- (19) **Chowdhury, S.** & Das, R. P. (2007). Diversity of Butterflies in the Indian Botanic Garden, West Bengal. *Bionotes*, 9(4): 131 – 132. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (20) Chowdhury (Pal), D. & **Chowdhury, S.** (2007). Butterfly Fauna in the Mudiali Ecological Park, Kolkata, West Bengal. *Bionotes*, 9(1): 25. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (21) **Chowdhury, S.** & Chowdhury, D. (Pal). (2006). Additions to the Butterfly Fauna of Chintamoni Kar Bird Sanctuary, West Bengal. *Bionotes*, 8(3): 68. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (22) **Chowdhury, S.** & Chowdhury (Pal), D. (2006). On the Butterfly Fauna of Chintamoni Kar Bird Sanctuary, West Bengal. *Bionotes*, 8(1): 127-128. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (23) **Chowdhury, S.** & Chowdhury, D. (Pal). (2005). A List of the Birds of Narendrapur Wildlife Sanctuary, West Bengal. *Bionotes*, 7(4): 127-128. [ISSN: 0972-1800]

- (24) Mitra, B., **Chowdhury, S.**, Chowdhury, D., Banerjee, D., & Sharma, R. M. (2005). Insect Diversity of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. *Bionotes*, 7(3): 82-83. [ISSN: 0972-1800]
- (25) **Chowdhury, S.** (2004). An observation on the resident birds of Bolpur, West Bengal. *Bionotes*, 6(4): 104-105. [ISSN: 0972-1800]

(c) Poster Publications

- (1) **Chowdhury, S.** (2015). Indication of Habitat Quality and Environmental Health by Fiddler Crabs (*Uca*: Ocypodidae): A Potential Bioindicator for Mangrove Ecosystems. UGC – Sponsored State-Level Seminar on Environmental Pollution: Causes, Impacts & Control. The Bhawanipur Education Society College, Kolkata in collaboration with IAPQR, Kolkata.
- (2) Chakrabarti, P. and **Chowdhury, S.** (2008). A Preliminary Survey of Butterfly (Lepidoptera: Rhopalocera) Fauna of Jayanti, Buxa Tiger Reserve, West Bengal. National Seminar on Faunal Diversity: Status, Utilization and Impact on Human Health. Dept. of Zoology, University of Calcutta.

(d) Working Papers

- (1) Chatterjee, A., Ghosal, S., **Chowdhury, S.**, & Chakrabarti, P. An account of the Early-Winter migrant and Resident birds in a wetland habitat of the Indian Wild Ass Sanctuary in the Dasada taluka, Surendranagar, Gujarat, *under review*.
- (2) Chatterjee, A., Ghosal, S., **Chowdhury, S.**, & Chakrabarti, P. Habitat heterogeneity culminates in greater diversity of Early-Winter Migrant and Resident birds in Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, Wild Ass Wildlife Sanctuary and Marine National Park– three Important Bird Areas of Central Asian-South Asian Flyway. Manuscript submitted for publication, *under review*.
- (3) Chatterjee, A., Ghosal, S., **Chowdhury, S.**, & Chakrabarti, P. Report of the early winter migrants and resident birds in an inland wetland near Tundi Camp, Bajana, Gujarat, *under review*.

Invited Lectures

(a) Seminars / Symposiums/Workshops

- (1) **Use of Free Software for Measuring Biological Diversity.** Lecture presented 2016
at Faculty Development Programme on “Professional Skill (April 22)
Development for Teachers and Researchers” in Department of
Biotechnology, Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata.
- (2) **Miniscule Wildlife: Macro Photography in Nature.** Speech presented at 2014
Photography Seminar on 175th World Photographic Day in Vijaygarh (August 19)
Jyotish Ray College, Kolkata. Organised by Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College
(Department of Journalism and Mass Communication) and
Vivekananda College, Thakurpukur (Photojournalism and Videography).

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| (3) | Ecological Contributions of Fiddler Crabs towards the Sustenance of Mangrove Forests of Sundarbans. Speech presented at Annual Workshop on “Disaster Management” in Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata. | 2010
(February 26) |
| (4) | Habitat Destruction and Sundarban Butterflies: The Case of Small Salmon Arab (<i>Colotis amata</i> Fab). Speech presented at Humboldt Kolleg on “Global Warming and Sundarbans” in Sundarbans, South 2-Parganas, West Bengal, India. Organised by Humboldt Club Calcutta. | 2009
(December 19) |
| (5) | Global Warming Affects Fiddler Crabs. Speech presented at Humboldt Kolleg on “Global Warming in context to the Indian Subcontinent” in Orissa, Puri. Organised by the Humboldt Club Calcutta. | 2008
(December 12) |

(b) Popular Lectures / Talks

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| (1) | Visual Storytelling – Storytelling through Photographs. Speech presented at Microsyst Videotronix, Kolkata. | 2017
(October 28) |
| (2) | Paschimbanglay Himaloyer Porijayi Pakhi (Migratory Birds from Himalayas to Bengal) [Radio broadcast]. In Jana-Ajana. Kolkata, West Bengal: Prasar Bharati, All India Radio. | 2012
(December 20) |
| (3) | Banglar Harin (Deers of Bengal) [Radio broadcast].In Jana-Ajana. Kolkata, West Bengal: Prasar Bharati, All India Radio. | 2011
(October 15) |
| (4) | The Dwindling Ecosystem of Cherrapunjee and its Winged Jewels. Speech presented at “Popular Talks”, Prakriti Samsad, Kolkata. | 2011
(August 27) |
| (5) | Banglar Projapoti (Butterflies of Bengal) [Radio broadcast]. In Jana-Ajana. Kolkata, West Bengal: Prasar Bharati, All India Radio. | 2011
(June 27) |
| (6) | Fiddler Crabs of Sundarbans. Speech presented at “Popular Talks”, Prakriti Samsad, Kolkata. | 2009
(July 25) |
| (7) | Butterflies Around us and Butterflies as Eco-indicators. Speech presented at “Popular Science Lectures”, Goethe-Institut, Max Mueller Bhavan, Kolkata and Humboldt Club Calcutta. | 2009
(April 09) |

Training Courses and Workshops Attended

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| (1) | Professional Skill Development for Teachers and Researchers <i>Faculty Development Programme</i> , Department of Biotechnology, Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata. | 2016
(Apr 11-15) |
| (2) | Sundarbans Pavilion Workshop , WWF-India, Kolkata and Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal. | 2011
(Apr 13-14) |
| (3) | Disaster Management Annual Workshop , Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata. | 2010
(Feb 26) |

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| (4) Mangrove Based Aquaculture/Agriculture/Ecology Training Course, Central
Inland Fisheries Institute, Kolkata Centre. | 2004
(Sep 14-23) |
| (5) Environmental Awareness and Wildlife Conservation Training Course,
Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata | 2003
(Feb 24-27) |
| (6) Field Ornithology Training Course, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata | 2002
(Jan 15-18) |
| (7) Collection, Preservation and Identification of Insects and Mites of Economic
Importance Training Course, Zoological Survey of India, Kolkata | 2001
(Jan 9-15) |
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Seminars Attended

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| (1) Environmental Pollution: Causes, Impacts & Control UGC – Sponsored State-
Level Seminar, Bhawanipur Education Society College in collaboration with
IAPQR, Kolkata. | 2015
(Apr 25) |
| (2) Combating Climate Change in C40 Megacities International Symposium, U.S.
Consulate in Kolkata and South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE), Kolkata. | 2015
(Apr 22) |
| (3) Miniscule Wildlife: Macro Photography in Nature Photography Seminar on
175 th World Photographic Day, Vijaygarh Jyotish Ray College (Dept. of
Journalism and Mass Communication) and Vivekananda College, Thakurpukur
(Photojournalism and Videography) Kolkata. | 2014
(Aug 19) |
| (4) Water and Future of India Seminar, Sea Explorer's Institute, Kolkata and
School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata. | 2011
(Mar 10) |
| (5) Global Warming and Sundarbans Humboldt Kolleg, organized by Humboldt
Club Calcutta, Dayapur Island, Sundarbans, West Bengal. | 2009
(Dec 18-20) |
| (6) Global Warming in contrast to the Indian Subcontinent Humboldt Kolleg,
organized by Humboldt Club Calcutta, Puri, Odisha. | 2008
(Dec 11-13) |
| (7) Faunal Diversity: Status, Utilization and Impact on Human Health National
Seminar, Dept. of Zoology, University of Calcutta, Kolkata. | 2008
(Feb 16) |
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Referee/ Reviewer for Journals

- (1) Journal of Threatened Taxa
 - (2) Journal of Medicinal Plant Research
 - (3) Check List (Journal of Species List and Distribution)
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Society Memberships

Social, Environmental and Biological Association (SEBA), Kolkata; *Life Member*

Additional Skills and Qualifications

- (1) **Photography:** Digital photography with proficiency in macro and landscape sections; experience in hiking and shooting mostly in different wild environments as well as urban landscapes in India; popular lectures on macro and visual photography; photographs published in different print and online media, including exhibitions.
 - (2) **Computing Skills:** Competent using Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint; knowledge of various statistical and biodiversity-related software like SPSS, Estimate-S, F-Diversity, etc.; website development, web-graphics and photo-editing.
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Interests

Photography, Reading, Hiking, Travel

REFERENCES

1. Dr. Sukriti Ghosal

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4. Dr. Anurag Danda

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Dated: 1 Feb, 2018